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BYE-35050-65

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11 January 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Responsibility for Providing a Preliminary
Rapid Interpretation of Photographic Detail
on National Photo Reconnaissance Missions

REFERENCES : a. NSCID No. 8, Effective 18 January 1961.
Subject: Photographic Interpretation
b. Agreement between the Secretary of Defense
and the Director of Central Intelligence on
Management of the National Reconnaissance
Program, dated 13 March 1963 (BYE-6655-63)

1. This memorandum contains recommendations in paragraph 3 and
paragraph 4.

2. Reference a, under paragraph 2, Centralized Responsibilities,
sub paragraph c states that "The NPIC shall provide on a selective basis
for the preliminary, rapid interpretation of photographic detail,
including where possible tentative identification of such detail;
and shall make appropriate distribution of such preliminary inter-
pretation, with the supporting references to appropriate related
collateral information, to interested elements of the community." On
the basis of this authority NPIC now performs the initial readout on a
priority basis for all national reconnaissance missions except those
which must be done in the field.

3. It is recommended that CIA support an interpretation of
NPIC's responsibility which would include initial field reporting as well.

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This responsibility may be discharged by NPIC designating a field activity as its agent for initial readout and reporting or by NPIC sending a team overseas to conduct the readout, on either a TDY or PCS basis.

4. According to paragraph III. B. of Reference b, NRO has no responsibility for photo-interpretation, being responsible only for "initial imagery processing, titling, production and delivery of the product to the users as specified by USIB". In view of this, it is further recommended that CIA take the position that the NRO Committee chaired by Col. Ohlmeyer now reviewing the URPIC's should not address itself to photo-interpretation beyond the point of identifying NPIC as having full responsibility under NSCID No. 8 for initial readout of all national missions.

RAY S. CLINE
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

CONCURRENCE:

DD/S&T (Mr. Sheldon)

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